

REMARKS

1. In response to the Office Action mailed April 21, 2005, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration. Claims 21-40 and 42-47 were last presented for examination. In the outstanding Office Action, claims 21, 22, 25-40, 42 and 47 were rejected. Claims 23, 24 and 43-46 were objected to. By the foregoing Amendments, claims 21, 29-31, 34, 38-39 and 42 have been amended. No claims have been canceled or added in this paper. Thus, upon entry of this paper, claims 21-40 and 42-47 will remain pending in this application. Of these 26 claims, four (4) claims (claim 21, 31, 38 and 42) are independent.
2. Based on the above Amendments and following Remarks, Applicants respectfully request that the outstanding objections and rejections be reconsidered, and that they be withdrawn.

Art of Record

3. Applicants acknowledge receipt of form PTO-892 identifying one additional reference, U.S. Patent No. 5,790,798 to Beckett, II, made of record by the Examiner.

Claim Rejections

4. Claims 21, 22, 25-30, 34, and 38-40 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. Applicants have amended the claims in accordance with the Examiner's helpful suggestions. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the rejection under 35 USC §112.
5. Claim 42 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,790,798 to Beckett, II, *et al.* (hereinafter, "Beckett"). Applicants respectfully disagree. However, to facilitate prosecution, Applicants have amended claim 42 in accordance with the Examiner's suggested amendment to overcome the rejection. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claim 42 be withdrawn.

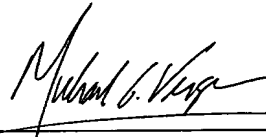
Dependent Claims

6. The dependent claims incorporate all of the subject matter of their respective independent claims and add additional subject matter which makes them a fortiori and independently patentable over the art of record. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the outstanding rejections of the dependent claims be reconsidered and withdrawn.

Conclusion

7. In view of the foregoing, this application should be in condition for allowance. A notice to this effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael G. Verga", is written over a horizontal line.

Michael G. Verga
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July 28, 2005